

Application No. 10/614,715
Amendment dated January 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 29, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4, 7, 12, 15, 19 and 26, and cancel claims 1-3 without prejudice, as follows:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The chair of claim 3;~~ A chair for supporting wire mesh, the wire mesh comprised of wire strands joined in intersecting relationships creating a multiplicity of junctions, the chair comprising:

a body including an upper receiving area and a lower base,

the receiving area including walls projecting upwardly from the base and adapted to secure the wire strands engaged thereby,

the base adapted to rest on a planar support surface,

the body having an inner surface and an outer surface, the surfaces being substantially complementary to each other to allow a plurality of chairs to be stacked within one another for storage and shipment,

the receiving area further including notches to receive and support the strands, the walls defining passageways above the notches, and

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the receiving area further including detents projecting inwardly from the walls, the detents adapted to fixedly retain the strands within the passageways.

5. (Original) The chair of claim 4, wherein the detents are offset from central portions of the walls, to thereby cooperate with the passageways to retain the strands.

6. (Original) The chair of claim 4, wherein at least a portion of each detent is sloped in a direction toward the base to facilitate insertion of strands into the receiving area.

7. (Currently Amended) The chair of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 4, the base including a plurality of support legs extending downwardly from the receiving area and defining a plurality of apertures, the apertures operable to allow poured concrete to pass fluidly through the body.

8. (Original) The chair of claim 7, the base further including at least one foot member extending from a lower surface of at least one of the plurality of support legs.

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9. (Original) The chair of claim 8, wherein the at least one foot member is a single foot member consisting of a continuous band of material extending outwardly in a horizontal plane, the plurality of support legs being connected by the single foot member.

10. (Original) The chair of claim 9, wherein the single foot member further includes at least one projection extending upwardly therefrom in a vertical plane.

11. (Original) The chair of claim 10, wherein one of the at least one projection is located at each of the plurality of support legs.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The chair of claim 11;~~ A chair for supporting wire mesh, the wire mesh comprised of wire strands joined in intersecting relationships creating a multiplicity of junctions, the chair comprising:

a body including an upper receiving area and a lower base,

the receiving area including walls projecting upwardly from the base and adapted to secure the wire strands engaged thereby,

the base adapted to rest on a planar support surface,

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the body having an inner surface and an outer surface, the surfaces being substantially complementary to each other to allow a plurality of chairs to be stacked within one another for storage and shipment,

the base including a plurality of support legs extending downwardly from the receiving area and defining a plurality of apertures, the apertures operable to allow poured concrete to pass fluidly through the body,

the base further including at least one foot member extending from a lower surface of at least one of the plurality of support legs,

wherein the at least one foot member is a single foot member consisting of a continuous band of material extending outwardly in a horizontal plane, the plurality of support legs being connected by the single foot member,

wherein the single foot member further includes at least one projection extending upwardly therefrom in a vertical plane,

wherein one of the at least one projection is located at each of the plurality of support legs, and

wherein one of the at least one projection extends across the entire width of the single foot member.

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13. (Original) The chair of claim 8, wherein one of the at least one foot member extends outwardly in a horizontal plane from each of the plurality of support legs.

14. (Original) The chair of claim 13, wherein the at least one foot member further includes at least one projection extending upwardly therefrom in a vertical plane.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The chair of claim 14,~~ A chair for supporting wire mesh, the wire mesh comprised of wire strands joined in intersecting relationships creating a multiplicity of junctions, the chair comprising:

a body including an upper receiving area and a lower base,

the receiving area including walls projecting upwardly from the base and adapted to secure the wire strands engaged thereby,

the base adapted to rest on a planar support surface,

the body having an inner surface and an outer surface, the surfaces being substantially complementary to each other to allow a plurality of chairs to be stacked within one another for storage and shipment.

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the base including a plurality of support legs extending downwardly from the receiving area and defining a plurality of apertures, the apertures operable to allow poured concrete to pass fluidly through the body,

the base further including a least one foot member extending from a lower surface of at least one of the plurality of support legs,

wherein one of the at least one foot member extends outwardly in a horizontal plane from each of the plurality of support legs,

wherein the at least one foot member further includes at least one projection extending upwardly therefrom in a vertical plane, and

wherein one of the at least one projection extends across the entire width of one of the at least one foot member.

16. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 8, wherein the at least one foot member extends downwardly in a vertical plane.

17. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 16, wherein the at least one foot member includes a first portion and a second portion which are joined at a ninety (90) degree angle.

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18. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 17, wherein a support member extends outwardly from the intersection of the first portion and second portion.

19. (Currently Amended) The chair of claim [[1]] 4, wherein the receiving area and the base are integrally formed together of a resilient polymeric material.

20. (Original) The chair of claim 13, wherein the chair is made of polypropylene and is one-piece injection molded.

21. (Original) A chair for supporting wire mesh, the wire mesh formed of strands of wire joined at a plurality of junctions in intersecting relationships, the chair comprising:

a hollow body including an inner surface, an outer surface, a receiving area, and a base,

the base defining a lower opening and adapted to rest on a planar support surface,

the receiving area defining an upper opening and adapted to receive and retain at least one junction of the mesh,

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the receiving area including a plurality of notches, walls, and detents, the notches configured to receive the strands, the walls projecting upwardly between the notches and defining passageways configured to direct the strands into the notches, the detents configured to extend inwardly from the walls and operable to fixedly retain the strands within the receiving area,

the base including a plurality of support legs defining a plurality of apertures therebetween, the apertures operable to allow poured concrete to pass fluidly through the chair;

wherein the body is generally funnel-shaped with the lower opening being larger than the upper opening, and the inner and outer surfaces are substantially complementary to each other to allow a plurality of chairs to be stacked within each other for storage and shipment.

22. (Original) The chair of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of each detent is sloped in a direction toward the base to facilitate insertion of strands into the receiving area.

23. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 21, wherein the detents are positioned at an upper right portion of the walls, thereby covering the right adjacent passageway.

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24. (Original) The chair of claim 21, the base further including at least one foot member extending from the plurality of support legs.

25. (Original) The chair of claim 24, further comprising a plurality of projections disposed on the at least one foot member and extending in a direction generally toward the receiving area.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The chair of claim 25,~~ A chair for supporting wire mesh, the wire mesh formed of strands of wire joined at a plurality of junctions in intersecting relationships, the chair comprising:

a hollow body including an inner surface, an outer surface, a receiving area, and a base,

the base defining a lower opening and adapted to rest on a planar support surface,

the receiving area defining an upper opening and adapted to receive and retain at least one junction of the mesh,

the receiving area including a plurality of notches, walls, and detents, the notches configured to receive the strands, the walls projecting upwardly between the notches and defining passageways configured to direct the strands

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into the notches, the detents configured to extend inwardly from the walls and operable to fixedly retain the strands within the receiving area,

the base including a plurality of support legs defining a plurality of apertures therebetween, the apertures operable to allow poured concrete to pass fluidly through the chair,

wherein the body is generally funnel-shaped with the lower opening being larger than the upper opening, and the inner and outer surfaces are substantially complementary to each other to allow a plurality of chairs to be stacked within each other for storage and shipment,

the base further including at least one foot member extending from the plurality of support legs,

the chair further comprising a plurality of projections disposed on the at least one foot member and extending in a direction generally toward the receiving area, and

wherein at least one of the projections extends across the entire width of at least one of the at least one foot member.

27. (Original) The chair of claim 24, wherein the at least one foot member is a single continuous band connecting the plurality of support legs, the at least one

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foot member extending outwardly in a horizontal plane from the plurality of support legs.

28. (Original) The chair of claim 24, wherein one of the at least one foot member extends outwardly in a horizontal plane from each of the plurality of support legs.

29. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 24, wherein the at least one foot member extends downwardly in a vertical plane.

30. (Withdrawn) The chair of claim 29, wherein the at least one foot member includes an outwardly extending support member.